Sl.No.	Name of the Circle	No. of Gramin Dak Scvaks
5.	Gujarat	17608
6.	Haryana	4430
7.	Himachal Pradesh	6720
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	2903
9.	Karnataka	17276
10.	Kerala	12146
11.	Madhya Pradesh	23406
12.	Maharashtra	23802
13.	North Eastern	7677
14.	Orissa	18453
15.	Punjab	6686
16.	Rajasthan	16223
17.	Tamil Nadu	24873
18.	Uttar Pradesh	41063 .
19.	West Bengal	22160
	TOTAL	309649

Share price of VSNL

206. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the dates since which the price of VSNL's shares started coming down in the share market;

(b) the date-wise share prices of VSNL's shares from February, 2000 onwards;

(c) the date on which Government decided to end VSNL's monopoly in International Long Distance Telephony;

(d) whether it is a fact that the price of VSNL's share price started coming down much before the end of monopoly was advanced;

(e) whether such slide was in keeping with general movement of sensex;

(f) if not, whether any Enquiry to understand such movement was undertaken; and

(g) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) VSNL share price started coming down from 10th February, 2000 and the trend reversed after 25th May, 2000 when the price started increasing.

(b) Date-wise share price of VSNL from 1st February, 2000 to 30th June, 2000 is given in the Annexure. *[See* Appendix 193, Annexure No. 4]

(c) September 6, 2000.

(d) Yes. Sir.

(e) The slide was in keeping with the general movement of BSE IT index.

(f) and (g) Question do not arise in view of (e) above.

Rules framed for Gramin Dak Sewaks

207. SHRI GAYA SINGH:
SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the designation of the Extra Departmental Agents (EDA) in Department of Posts has been changed to "Gramin Dak Sewaks";

(b) if so, whether any decision has been taken to settle the long pending demands of EDAs;

(c) whether specific rules have been formulated regarding the pay scales, working conditions etc. for the Gramin Dak Sewaks; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Gramin Dak Sevaks are employed for a period of duty ranging from 2 to 5 hours a day. They do not form part of the regular civil services and their terms and conditions of employment are governed by separate set of rules, earlier named P&T ED Agents